

APPENDIX P

Who Are We? A Profile

GLOSSARY

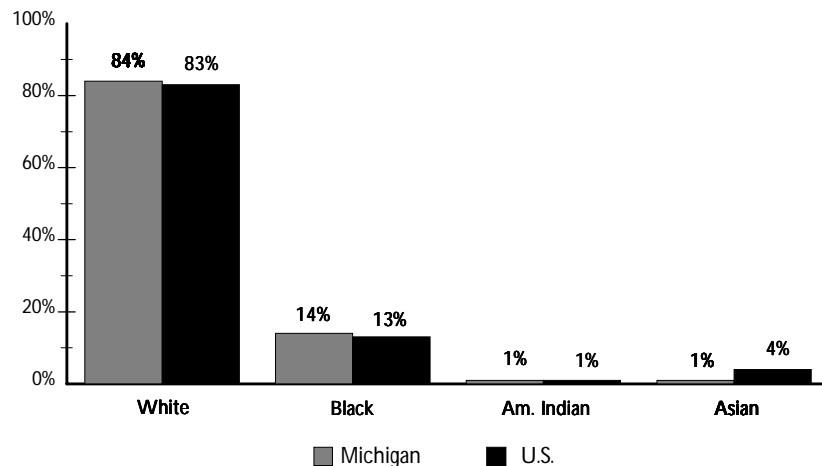
Hispanic origin

As defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, an ethnicity rather than a race; refers to persons who can trace their origin to Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central or South America, or other nations with a Spanish culture; Hispanic people may be of any race.

POPULATION

- There are 9,773,900 people living in Michigan, making it the eighth most populous state in the nation (1997).
- There are 3,576,000 households in the state, with an average of 2.6 people living in each (1996).
- Although the state's population is growing, it is occurring at a rate slower than most other states; for 1996–97, Michigan's growth rate ranked 34th among the states.
- About 85 percent of Michigianians are Caucasian, about 15 percent African-American, one percent American Indian, and one percent Asian (see Exhibit 1). With the exception of its Asian population, Michigan's racial composition mirrors that of the rest of the nation (1996).
- Only 3 percent of the state's population are Hispanic, compared to 11 percent nationwide (1996).
- The median age in Michigan is 34.2, compared to 34.6 for the United States (1996).

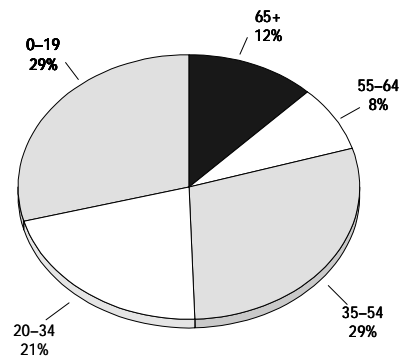
EXHIBIT 1. Racial Distribution in Michigan and the United States, 1996



SOURCE: Calculations by Public Sector Consultants, Inc., based on data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

- Twenty-nine percent of the Michigan population are aged 19 or younger, 21 percent are in their young working years, 29 percent are middle-aged, and 17 percent are 55 and older (1996; see Exhibit 2).
- The Michigan population is aging. In 1990 the median age was 32.5; six years later it had increased nearly two years, to 34.2.

EXHIBIT 2. Michigan Population, by Age Group, 1996



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

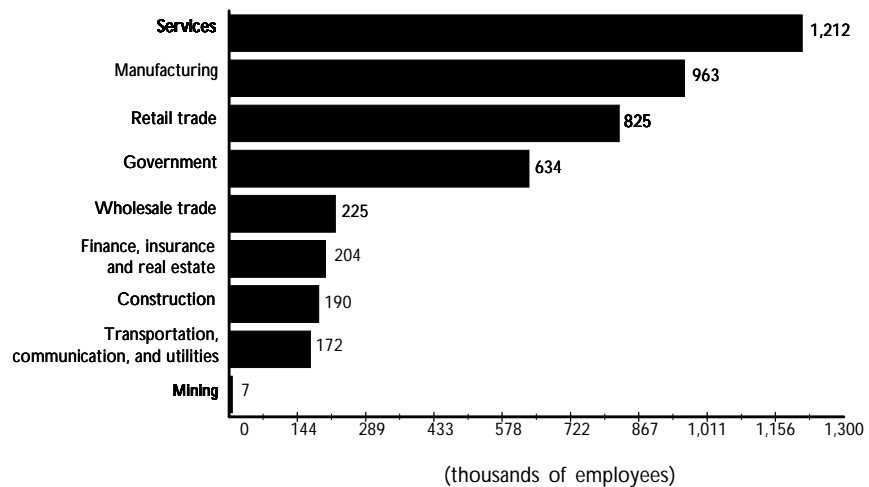
- In 1995 there were 71,042 marriages and 39,499 divorces in Michigan; couples ending their marriages were wed an average of seven years.
- Of the 2.4 million families in Michigan, 1.2 million—49 percent—have children aged under 18 (1990).
- The average number of children per Michigan family is 0.92; the national average is 0.89 (1990).
- Twenty-eight percent of the state's children live in families headed by a single parent; nationally, the rate is 26 percent (1994).

ECONOMIC STATUS

- Per capita income in Michigan is \$24,945, ranking it 16th in the nation (1996).
- More than one-fifth—21 percent—of Michigan children live in poverty (in 1998, annual income under \$13,650 for a family of three); of these, 10 percent live in extreme poverty (annual income under \$ 6,825 for a family of three); nationally, the rates are about the same (1994).
- Twelve percent of all Michigan residents and 24 percent of Michigan children live in poverty (1996).
- Of Michigan's 4.9 million people in the labor force, about 4.7 million have jobs (1997).

- Four percent of the civilian labor force—about 202,000— are unemployed (1997).
- The service sector (includes agriculture and tourism) is the largest employer in the state, followed by manufacturing and retail trade (1997; see Exhibit 3).
- About 11 percent of the Michigan work force hold a job related to vehicle manufacturing (1996).
- Michigan households average 1.7 vehicles; 6.2 million passenger vehicles are registered in the state (FY 1996–97).

EXHIBIT 3. 1997 Wage and Salary Employment in Michigan, by Industry



SOURCE: Michigan Employment Security Agency.

HOUSING AND RESIDENCE

- Approximately 72 percent of Michigan residents own their own homes, ranking the state among the nation’s top four in home ownership (1995).
- Roughly 83 percent of Michigan’s population live in metropolitan areas (cities and surrounding suburbs); the national figure is 80 percent (1990).
- Only 1.3 percent of the Michigan population live on a farm (1990).
- Seventy-eight percent of the Michigan population report having been born in the state, ranking Michigan 9th in the nation in the number of native sons/daughters still residing here (1990).

EDUCATION

- Eighty-three percent of Michigan residents aged 18 and older have a high school diploma, and 19 percent have a bachelor’s degree or more advanced education (1996).

- Twenty-four percent of Michigan males aged 25 and older have achieved at least a bachelor's degree; the figure is 19 percent for Michigan women (1996).
- Twenty-two percent of Michigan Caucasians aged 25 and older have achieved at least a bachelor's degree; the figures for African-Americans and people of Hispanic origin are 10 percent and 8 percent, respectively (1996).
- The high-school dropout rate in Michigan is 7.7 percent, up from 5.2 percent in 1995 (1996).

HEALTH HABITS AND STATUS

- Twenty-six percent of Michigan adults smoke cigarettes, the 14th highest percentage in the nation (1995).
- Thirty-one percent of Michigan adults are overweight, ranking it 5th in the nation (1995).
- The state's teen pregnancy rate is 82 per 1,000 pregnancies (1995).
- Heart disease is killing more Michiganders than any other cause: One-third of all Michigan deaths are related to heart disease (1995).
- Michigan has 8 HIV/AIDS deaths per 100,000 people; the national rate is 15 per 100,000 people (1995).

POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

- Thirty-nine percent of Michiganders consider themselves to be Democrats, 35 percent Republicans, and 20 percent independents; 19 percent profess to be "strong" Democrats, and 15 percent to be "strong" Republicans (1997).
- Forty-two percent say they are conservative, 27 percent moderate, and 29 percent liberal (1997).
- Fifty-two percent say they are Protestant, 29 percent Catholic, one percent Jewish, and 17 percent reported practicing another or no religion; 46 percent say they attend religious services regularly, 21 percent attend often, and 31 percent seldom or never (1997).

RECREATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Eight hundred thousand watercraft are registered in Michigan, making the state the nation's leader (1997).
- Forty-three percent of the Michigan population participate in some form of wildlife-related recreation (1996).
- One-fourth of Michigan residents engage in hunting or fishing (1996).
- Bicycling, walking for exercise, camping, and bowling are the four sports activities in which Michigan adults most often participate (1992).
- Forty percent of Michiganders volunteer annually (1997).

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Michigan Department of Community Health, *Critical Health Indicators: 1997* (Lansing, Mich.: MDCH), May 1997.

Michigan Information Center Web site
www.state.mi.us/dmb/mic/

Harold A. and Kendra A. Hover, *State Fact Finder: Rankings Across America, 1997* (Washington, D.C.; Congressional Quarterly), 1997.

National Sporting Goods Association. *Sporting Participation in 1992, State-by-State* (Mt. Prospect, Ill.: 1992).

U.S. Bureau of the Census Web site
www.census.gov

U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 1990*. (Washington, D.C.: GPO), 1990.